

REMARKS

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has objected to claims 15 and 16 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. To this end, Applicants have amended claim 1, and have incorporated dependent claim 15, as well as all intervening claims, thereto. Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is allowable.

Moreover, Applicants have amended claim 1 to remove the term “exhaustive list of sites”, and replace it with the term “listed sites”. Applicants respectfully submit that the term “listed sites” has antecedent basis.

Claims 4, 6-12 and 16 depend from independent claim 1. These claims are further believed allowable because each sets forth additional steps of Applicants novel inspection and requalification method.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims in the application are in allowable form and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Applicants further submit that neither further search nor consideration would be necessitated by entry of this amendment. Therefore, entry is proper and should be effected.

If, however, any outstanding issues remain, Applicants urge the Examiner to telephone Applicants’ attorney so that the same may be resolved and the application

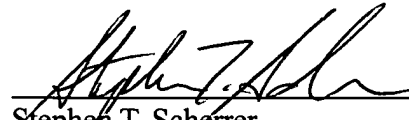
In re Barich et al.
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/672,793

expedited to issue. Applicants request the Examiner to indicate all claims as allowable and to pass the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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